



EDUCATION

Test Results

PROVEN PROTECTION IN THE WORLD'S FIRST ANTIMICROBIAL CLASSROOM

The Challenge:

The scientists at BioCote® wanted to carry out live tests to see how well BioCote performs in the school classroom. This was a perfect environment to test as classrooms present the classic factors that support the efficient spread of microbes: close contact of people for prolonged periods, numerous commonly touched communal surfaces and isolated cleaning. Hygiene in these environments is, therefore, important in order to reduce the risk and consequences of microbial cross contamination. Inevitably, good hygiene guidance for education providers from government includes regular, thorough environmental cleaning.

BioCote took on the challenge and ran a study to measure and compare the number of bacteria in two classrooms in the same primary school. Products featuring BioCote's antimicrobial protection were extensively applied to one whilst the second was unchanged. BioCote is exclusive to Waterlogic for water dispensers and so the studies were of particular interest to validate the bacteria protection offered around key areas of the dispenser.

The Analysis:

BioCote created the world's first ever antimicrobial classroom at a primary school in the UK, during the autumn of 2014. For the study, the classroom was equipped with a range of products protected with BioCote antimicrobial technology. These items included the following BioCote incorporated products: computer desks, tables and bookcases, chairs, door handles, light switches, soap dispensers, cable trunking, storage trays and units, carpets, radiator covers, window handles, wall paint, wall cladding and of course a Waterlogic water dispenser.

A second classroom was included in this study to serve as a control environment. The demographics of both classrooms were suitably comparable. Both classrooms were used and cleaned as normal. A standard water cooler, not produced by Waterlogic and not featuring BioCote was used in the control environment.



What Happened:

"We are very proud to be part of the world's first 'antimicrobial classroom'. We were keen to undertake the study in a school environment due to the close contact nature of children in the school classroom - providing the perfect setting for potentially harmful bacteria to spread. We are happy to announce huge bacterial reductions on BioCote treated products, affirming our aim of a cleaner classroom for young children."

Dr Richard Hastings
Technical Director
and Microbiologist at BioCote



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The Results:

The Waterlogic water dispenser featuring BioCote® had an impressive 96.79% lower total bacterial count when compared to the standard non-BioCote water dispenser in the unprotected room. A comparison of the average number of bacteria recovered from all BioCote treated products with all corresponding products in the control classroom revealed almost 96% less bacterial contamination in the antimicrobial classroom.

Difference in average colony counts per product in treated and untreated classroom

Computer Desk	92.65%
Desk Chair	97.12%
Door Handle	98.58%
Bookcase	97.43%
Painted Surfaces	91.30%
Soap Dispenser	96.26%
Water Dispenser	96.79%



The Conclusion:

The average of 96% reduced counts of bacteria on the antimicrobial products, compared to the control classroom's counterparts, testifies to the continued antimicrobial performance of BioCote. One would expect commonly touched surfaces like door handles to have a high bacteria count, but it is more significant for a drinking water dispenser to assure greater levels of hygiene. From schools, to hospitals, to office environments, this is great reassurance. BioCote protected products, like Waterlogic water dispensers, come with the guarantee that before release into the market, products treated with BioCote® technology are validated for acceptably high antimicrobial efficacy.

"Many of our Waterlogic machines are supplied for uses such as in schools and hospitals. We have worked with BioCote for many years due to its highly effective antibacterial properties. It is great to see the amazing results in BioCote's protected classroom in the test. Clearly BioCote is the top performer in its class and this is compelling information. Whilst it is obviously good practice to regularly clean a water dispenser, by combining these good cleaning practices with BioCote protection, your bacterial levels will be greatly reduced."

Derek Lubbers
Technical Manager at Waterlogic



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